International Business Institutions

†5186. SHRI KAPIL SIBBAL :
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that several International Business Institutions have started establishing the units for the pre-school primary education in the country;

(b) if so, the names of the MNCs which have entered the field till December 2002; and

(c) the names of the States and number of units established therein by these MNCs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

NRIs to invest on Education and Health

5187. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has not been able to convince the NRIs from USA to invest in India on education and health;

(b) if so, whether number of delegations from HRD Ministry visited to US to convince the NRIs for more participation specially in education and health;

(c) whether number of NRIs in USA have pointed out that the norms at present applied in India are not sufficient and require some modifications; and

(d) if so, what were the main hurdles that come in the way ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) It is not correct to say that the Government of India has not been able to convince the NRIs from USA to invest in India on Education and Health. The NRIs/PIOs contribution in the education sector in India is estimated at USD 10—12 million a year. Some of the major initiatives are for starting specialised faculties and improving existing facilities in IITs of Kharagpur, Mumbai and Chennai and starting of the Indian Institute of Business in Hyderabad. In addition they have been contributing for establishing and running schools and colleges in different parts of the country. There have also been several private sector initiatives in IT related training centres in different schools in India. In the health care system of India, US based NRIs /PIOs contribute approximately $ 10—15 million per annum.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Some of the major initiatives taken by them include setting up of an Indian Diabetes Institute in Kerala with a contribution of upto $ 40 million. The K. Care project to counter AIDS in the state of Karnataka at the cost of $ 15 million is another initiative by NRI/PIO doctors. Other important health sector initiatives include a project of an Eye Hospital in Kakinada and a research based Eye Hospital in Vishakhapatnam and the super specialised Kalinga Hospital in Bhubhaneshwar. NRIs/PIOs have also opened schools to train nurses and auxiliary staff in different parts of India. As informed by Indian Embassy in Washington, a number or NRIs/ PIOs have been contributing to trusts/societies for setting up of Medical Colleges and Hospitals in some of the States of the country. However, information in this regard is not maintained by Central Government.

(b) No delegation from the Ministry of HRD visited US in this regard.

(c) This department has no specific information.

(d) Does not arise.

Abolition of child marriages

5188. SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether women activists across the country are urging the Centre for abolition of child marriages;

(b) if so, whether the report from various places in the country, including the Capital has pointed out that despite child marriages being stopped on receiving news, the child marriages are still performed;

(c) whether Government propose to take any step to abolish the child marriages in the country;

(d) if so, what are the concrete suggestions made by the women activists; and

(e) to what extent they have been considered and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Details of child marriages registered in the country during the years 1999, 2000 and 2001 under the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 as per the data